Forbidden Freedom

by CHEDDI JAGAN

page 3

July ★ 1954

CARIBBEAN NEWS 6d.

WHY THE YANKEE ATTACK ON GUATEMALA

Guatemalan workers opposed by the giant figure representing the United Fruit Co. say on the banner 'We are asking for better living conditions'

AFTER two weeks of armed assault and intrigue, the United States of America has conquered Guatemala and has rooted out the democratic government. All democrats are now being hunted.

The world knows that little Guatemala was wantonly invaded by an army of mercenaries, put up by the U.S.A. to restore the old conditions of oppression and dictatorship.

These foot-loose gunmen, based in Honduras and Nicaragua, have been armed by the United States to overthrow a legitimate government, and the United Nations resolved (on a vote cast by such representative democrats as Chiang Kai Shek) to do nothing but refer the case to the Organisation of American States. A week before this, the U.N. decided to send observers to Siam, on the grounds that she is threatened by aggression from Indo-China. For alleged threats, action is taken. For proven aggression, nothing!

The phantastic argument runs (a) that Guatemala was communist controlled, (b) that she was a threat to the rest of the Americas.

What are the facts? After winning her independence from Spain in 1823 Guatemala was ruled by a succes-

★ continued on page 5

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'QUEEN VICTORIA' BLOWN UP

FOLLOWING the blowing up of a statue of Queen Victoria on May 25th, on the grounds of the Victoria Law Courts, the special reserve police have been called out. Armed police guard numerous city buildings. The police have intensified their searches and on the 26th May the homes of six prominent members of the P.P.P. including Messrs. Westmans, Carter, Bowman and Mrs. Jagan were raided. The newspapers carry rumours of the possibility of the introduction of the curfew in the still proclaimed areas of British Guiana.

Jamaican workers go slow

SILOAH, June 4th — A unanimous decision to intensify the "Go-slow" movement on the Appleton - Raheen Sugar Estate was taken at a members' meeting held here today and attended by over 300 small cane farmers and workers on the property.

Already the go-slow action of the workers have caused the present crop to be two months short of fulfilment. In addition, it has won for the small cane farmers, owning 1-5 acres and previously boycotted by the management because of union activities, increased sale of cane to the estate.

With this action successfully carried out, hundreds of peasant farmers who cannot ordinarily be classified as wage earners, have been won over to the Jamaica Federation of Trade Unions.

At a mass meeting at Appleton on 5th June, over three thousand workers heard Ferdinand Smith, Richard Hart, Rolly Simms, and local organiser and Secretary Don Horne, reiterate the programme of the S.A.W.U. to win the wage demands and recognition of their trade union.

In his address Ferdinand Smith urged the workers to join the S.A.W.U. in order to face the employers in the coming crop with a strengthened union to continue the struggle.

Expressing full support for the S.A.W.U.'s programme, the meeting adopted a resolution calling for (1) that a conference to continue and intensify the go-slow movement on Appleton cane farms be convened, and (2) a membership campaign to continue the struggle through the planting and weeding period to lay the base for the 1955 crop struggle.

Another meeting of over 2,000 workers at Union Square also approved the resolution unanimously.

★ EDITORIAL ★

GUATEMALA

WHEN is aggression aggression and when is it not aggression? A brief answer can be given. Aggression is not aggression when it is committed by the United States and its satellites. That is the definition of aggression by the countries boasting the so-called Western Way of Life. It is the peculiar language of the gangster.

The big bully of North America has conquered tiny Guatemala with its three million people, and United States imperialism has been appeased. The "wrong has been righted" in the interest of the international gangster.

Exultantly, American muscle man Dulles declares that the overthrow of Guatemala's elected democratic government is a "new and glorious" victory.

Yes, how glorious for Yankee imperialism to root out democratic reforms in Guatemala, to roll back the workers' and peasants' wages and conditions, break up trade unions and destroy democratic liberties!

The American rulers stand condemned before the eyes of the world. We recall that when they invaded Korea they hastily summoned a Security Council meeting in the absence of the Soviet delegate, branded North Korea an aggressor without any evidence, and attacked North Korea even before the U.N. sanctioned it.

But when it comes to Guatemala it's a different matter.

The underlying thread is the same—American aggression in Korea, American aggression in Guatemala.

World domination

The grotesque nature of barbarous Yankee aspirations for world domination came out clearly when Cabot Lodge, U.S. representative at U.N., told the Soviet delegate to keep out of "our hemisphere". Fitting slogan for U.S. imperialism would be "The World is our Hemisphere." For they regard it as their God-given right to meddle in the affairs of Asia, Europe, Africa and South America.

Of course, the Chinese could equally say the same to the Americans, namely that Korea and Indo-China are in their "hemisphere".

But then the Chinese are only ordinary human beings. We all are expected to know, however, that the American gangster rulers have been ordained the sacred duty of overlording us poor mortals who try to get ahead.

Guatemala was similar in many respects to British Guiana. In both countries a democratic government had been elected. Guatemala actually carried out reforms to benefit the people. In Guiana, the democratic government tried to bring about reforms but were ousted from office.

The monster United Fruit Company, of which John Foster Dulles is a shareholder, dominates the economic life of Guatemala, just as Bookers dominate the economic life of Guiana.

It was to keep Guiana safe for Bookers exploitation that British cruisers and troops were sent to depose the elected Jagan government.

And it is to make Guatemala safe for the Yankee U.F. Company that the U.S. ruling circles have attacked and overthrown the popular Arbenz government, and instituted once again a dictator clique pledged to lick the boots of the Yankee boss.

Shameful role

Guatemala has been sacrificed to the aggressors as the liberal government of Spain was 16 years ago. The United States is today playing the part of Hitler Germany and Mussolini Italy.

The British Government has acted shamefully and in collusion with the Yankees.

First, banning arms shipments to Guatemala, then abstaining in the vote at U.N., Churchill's Government joined the U.S. in killing Guatemalan freedom.

For us in the West Indies, we must draw an important lesson. Which is, that both British and American ruling circles are our deadly enemies. Neither is better than the other as far as we are concerned. We cannot hold any illusion that the Americans will help free us from our British oppressors.

Only to the extent that we unite and use our own strength will we win our freedom.

Dulles maintained silence until his forces won their victory in Guatemala. Then he blared forth in praise of his aggression.

But Dulles and United Fruit shall not have the last word. The freedom-loving people of Guatemala now oppressed by tyrants, hunted, jailed and murdered, will continue their struggle against formidable odds, and will in the end achieve their liberty.

We join hands with them—our Guatemalan brothers—in our common struggle for independence.

Now it's St. Vincent's turn to have a bash

By Arthur Brown

THE TINY Caribbean Island of St. Vincent goes to the Poll to elect a new Legislative Council on August 16th. Of course, there is nothing new in having elections under restricted Constitutions.

If, however, this one, like so many others lately, has unintentionally struck the attention of people far and wide, it is simply because it might be necessary after the elections for the "terror of Whitehall", Oliver Lyttelton, to dismiss the elected House.

A sure sign of how shaky the whole administration is can be seen from the fact that two months ago the Island's most militant labour leader and elected councillor was removed from his seat on the Executive Council. This was achieved by a Motion put forward by a rival trade union leader, himself a councillor, and supported almost entirely by the elected members, and completely by the nominated officials.

This Motion alleges that Mr. Joshua was not working in the best interest of the Island's workers, and by virtue of the fact that he attended a W.F.T.U. conference in Vienna in 1953, accuses him of being an agent of a foreign power.

Of course, no supporter of the Motion during the debate gave any explanation as to the status of British Imperialism, whether it was local or foreign. Nevertheless, no one could claim, except for dishonest reasons, that exploitation such as exists in St. Vincent is done by Vincentians or in the interest of St. Vincent.

Thus the situation is created in which Patriots are accused by imperialist stooges of representing foreign interests, apparently for the purpose of fooling the masses.

Red bogey

And so, following the now established pattern, the "red bogey" is invoked. To bring home to the people of St. Vincent the dangers of communism, the importation of a Mr. Marcano, Secretary of the Caribbean Area of O.R.I.T. (an off-shoot of the I.C.F.T.U.) was necessary.

This gentleman, as was to be expected, found evidence of communism and warned against the consequences of showing any liking for it. It is clear that these dangers referred to emanate from the policy of the People's Political Party of which Mr. Joshua is President, also that of the Agricultural Workers' Union which has consistently fought to bring about the complete unity of workers, small farmers, and small business people.

Herein lies the crux of the stooges' hysteria, and likewise the solution to the multitude of problems that for generations have beset this Island of 71,000 people. Yes, 71,000 people with a potential working population of 35,000 and an unemployment figure of 29,000. The legacy of years of foreign rule.

In a press statement shortly after his arrival, Mr. Marcano remarks: "The world's problem today is not one of over-production, but of uneven distribution" (apparently reflecting on the vast stocks of food held by the U.S. Government after seeing hunger and poverty first-hand). "This problem must be solved here (St. Vincent) to stave off communism."

Maybe the masses of St. Vincent don't know the productive capacity of the world. Maybe they'll not know the true position for some time, through illiteracy and the banning of books and newspapers that could tell them. But one thing is certain and that is that they want a better life and are aware of how to achieve it.

The vicious attack on Joshua coupled with recent events in British Guiana and British Honduras have played no small part in bringing success to the People's Political Party and the Federated Agricultural and Industrial Workers' Union.

Rough and rugged

"The way ahead is rough and rugged. Industrial and agricultural development must be relentlessly pursued to avert catastrophy. We feel our's is the way to achieving that. And in spite of all the difficulties and disadvantages our Party and Union are confronted with, our policy is the one that will survive the slush that the election campaign will undoubtedly ferment."

Such is the mood of the people's leaders. We have no doubt that this policy will be endorsed on August 16th by a people who know only too well what part Governments representing foreign interests have cast upon them.

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JAMAICA THOUGHT CONTROL

KINGSTON. Subsequent to police invasion of their homes between March 20th and 31st, Daphne Campbell and Harold Drayton, delegates to the World Youth Festival in Rumania last year, were convicted recently in the Resident Magistrate's Court and fined a total of £30 or four months' imprisonment for having "undesirable publications" in their possession.

Campbell was fined £10 or two months in prison for having a copy of the progressive West Indian newspaper "Caribbean News", while Drayton was ordered to pay £20 or serve two months in jail for being in possession of a clipping from the working-class paper "For A Lasting Peace".

Rolly Simms, returning home after ten years in Europe, five of which were spent in active service against German fascism, has been fined £10 for importing "undesirable publications". The charge against his wife, Anne Simms, was dropped by prosecution.

Electric Strike

Georgetown, British Guiana.

A GANG OF Georgetown, British Guiana, workers at the Demerara Electric Company struck for five hours on Saturday, 12th June, in protest against the Company's refusal to recognise their union (the B.G. Labour Union, Secretary: Ashton Chase). Demands for pay increases have been made but the Company refused to have any dealings with the B.G. Labour Union.

Instead the workers were told to join the M.P.C.A. The latter has been negotiating with the employers to end the dispute in spite of being vigorously rejected by the workers. Two years ago the workers left the M.P.C.A. which they described as a company union and joined the B.G. Labour Union which has a majority of the workers as members.

* * *

The "Daily Argosy" and the "Guiana Graphic" have editorially demanded the banning of the P.P.P.'s official organ "Thunder". Police guard the "Thunder" Printery twenty-four hours daily.

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Where our money goes

CALLING BARBADOS!
CALLING JAMAICA!!
CALLING TRINIDAD!!!

—and look out the rest of you.

Sir Alexander Roger, K.C.I.E., Chairman of the TELEPHONE AND GENERAL TRUST, has a special message for all West Indians.

In his report to the 28th Annual General Meeting of his colleagues who own our public telephone circuit, he tells them that thanks to the high rate that we pay for the privilege of allowing him to invest in our territories, he is able to encourage them by paying out:

a. £10 for every £100 invested in the £1,000,000 Ordinary Stock; this also applies to the holders of what is fancifully called 'A' Ordinary Stock.
b. he has also a gift of a £1 Fully Paid Share for every holder, who already has £10 in Ordinary or 'A' Ordinary Stock—subject to Treasury consent?

Any wonder folks why your telephones cost so much? Remember, also, who are really the beneficiaries from increased charges when next the telephone linesmen and operators come out on strike for higher wages.

Yes, sir, this abortion of capitalism has in the words of the Chairman, "substantial holdings in Telephone Properties, Ltd."

It is from this Trust, that the JAMAICA Telephone Co. have borrowed so far to the extent of £346,000. So in TRINIDAD, the telephone company is in debt to this Trust, to the tune of £188,560 at December 31st, 1953. The story is repeated in BARBADOS, with their debt at £67,700.

Mighty fine business, and we pay. For 1953, we earned for Sir Roger, etc., the tidy sum of £104,620 nett profit, after charging taxation.

We are the countries that our British task-masters tell us are unable to support ourselves on our present economy. Whose fault?

Booker's Rake-off

"FOR BOOKERS, 1953 was altogether a most anxious and difficult year", said Mr. J. M. Campbell, chairman of Booker Brothers McConnell & Co., Ltd.

Addressing the shareholders on June 4th, the chairman, as he announced the splitting of the spoils, torn from Guiana, paid this tribute to Dr. Cheddi Jagan and the People's Progressive Party.

True, the **nett** profits exceeded two and a half million dollars (£507,556), and there has been a nett increase in Current Assets by another 2¼ million dollars (£450,000), but face up to it, the workers have fought back and we have this backhanded compliment.

Of course this businessman prattles a lot of phoney economics, similar to that which students from Guiana and other colonies pay a lot of money to learn. Campbell, referring to the dividend, said: ". . . and if distributed among the sugar workers on Bookers' estates would only result in a wages increase of 5 per cent."

What's wrong with that?

But what a lot of tosh! What about the allowances for directors, the tax paid to the British Chancellor of the Exchequer?

After more dribble, Mr. Campbell, the proud Chairman, with tongue in his cheek, states: "We would welcome a progressive Gobernment of Guianese for Guianese, a Government able to offer leadership, generate confidence, harmonize the qualities and the aspirations of the African, Indian, and other peoples there, and create the conditions in which Bookers—and other providers of the external capital and skills which British Guiana will need for many a day—could play their full part for the good of all."

Take these words to heart, Guiana — This can be Bookers' Grave, and Campbell foresees his doom — it's up to you NOW!

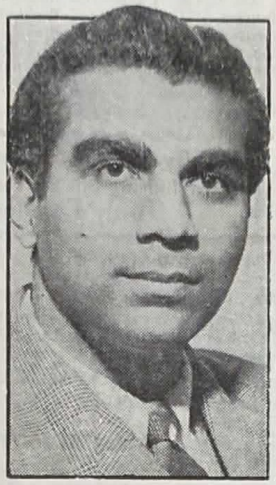
BOOK WORLD

Forbidden Freedom

The Story of Guiana — *by Cheddi Jagan*

THOSE WHO have met the author of this book or heard him speak will know his passionate sincerity and love of his country. These two qualities of his one feels go no small way to explaining the success of the political party which he leads in British Guiana.

★ **Cheddi Jagan** ★



But whatever personal qualities a politician may have, these are no substitute for an understanding of the social and economic conditions against which people living in a colony have ceaselessly to struggle.

We soon feel that Dr. Jagan shares, and is outraged by, the sufferings of the Guianese people, but that he knows their origin and knows, too, that they can only be ended by the combined efforts of the people. Hence the complete absence in Dr. Jagan's book of those messianic claims which so mark the speeches and behaviour of many leaders of the national movement in the British West Indies.

One result of this approach is this book — the first attempt to analyse conditions and political activity in the Caribbean from a Marxist point of view. For that reason one could have wished that the author had given us in more detail some of his Party's methods of work among the Guianese people. He shows us enough of the difficulties the Party has to overcome among a poor and largely illiterate peasantry in a community where for a century and more the planters have tried, not without success, to create antagonism between Indian and Negro workers on grounds of so-called race.

How these difficulties were overcome and how Indians, Negroes, Portuguese and others came to support the P.P.P. as Guianese and workers, is, we are sure, an exciting story not without valuable lessons for other territories in the Caribbean and elsewhere in the British Empire.

We hope that Dr. Jagan will come back to this theme one day and give us a clearer picture of opposing classes and personalities, manoeuvres and strategy. For though the British Government prompted from outside has for a time thwarted the efforts of the Guianese people to put an end to their terrible living conditions, the wishes of that people must in the end prevail. It will help if not only they, but others . . . have at their disposal further studies of their country of which this book is, we hope, a token.

Peter Blackman

Published by Lawrence & Wishart. Price 3/6

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Those Trade Union Experts

I HAVE just read a very attractive little booklet, for the paltry price of SIXPENCE, whose gaily coloured cover, could easily lead to wrong impressions.

Seductively decorated, with a slit-eyed mask, the title is splashed in the mysterious styled lettering of the East–

It is a true story of some wicked men who have plotted, schemed and bedevilled millions of ordinary people. There's a lot of trickery, plenty of double-crossing and the author JACK WODDIS, an Englishman, has prepared a wealth of facts about some very strange Englishmen who work in the West Indies and every other colony. Ever heard of a Labour Adviser?

"THE MASK IS OFF" * is a fitting title for an exposure of another technique to fool our people.

So often many of our folk sneer at the trade union; because of its comparative youth to us colonials we can easily underestimate its value—but if we do, the British Government doesn't!

What of this excerpt from an official Government directive in 1950 in Malaya; outlining the duties of the Trade Union Adviser:

> "to keep the Government constantly informed of all developments in the Trade Union movement within the Federation by means of regular, up-to-date and factual reports; to bring immediately to the notice of the Government any events or activities which are observed whether on the part of individuals or organisations, whether inside or outside of the Trade Union Movement, which are considered to be prejudicial to the development of sound trade unionism in the Federation; to inform . . . "

As Jack Woddis concludes, "nowhere, from start to finish of the seventeen points listed in this official Government directive to the Trade Union Adviser in Malaya, is there a single word about assisting workers to obtain higher wages, shorter hours, better conditions of work, security of employment or a proper system of social security."

This is a real rich encyclopaedia of the tricks and traps set for us as we develop our Trade Union Movement. We must be on guard; it is not only serious for the trade unionist, but for every working man or woman, in fact **ALL** our people.

We pay a heavy price for colonialism, every one of us, the barrister, the businessman, the banana worker, and in this moment of imminent danger Jack Woddis gives a word of timely advice:

> "All workers are brothers, and all have the same basic interests. They suffer a common oppression, and are exploited by the same enemy, imperialism. All workers, whatever their religious or political views, however advanced or backward their understanding may be, are exploited and in consequence suffer dire poverty and misery. It is, therefore, possible to unite the entire working-class against this exploitation, and to end poverty and misery. UNITY OF THE WORKING-CLASS IS NOT ONLY POSSIBLE—IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL."

* A THAMES publication obtainable from the C.L.C. LONDON BRANCH, at 3, Robert Street, London, N.W.1.

W.F.T.U. Acts on Guiana

A MEMORANDUM submitted by the World Federation of Trade Unions to the Secretary General of the United Nations on March 20th, 1954, stated:—

The World Federation of Trade Unions(in protesting against the infringements of trade union rights in British Guiana, considers that these infringements are closely bound up with the general attacks by the British authorities on the rights and liberties of the people of this country.

It draws attention to the fact that one of the pretexts for the arbitrary measures taken by the authorities was the presentation by the duly elected government of a bill giving the trade unions the right, on the basis of properly and democratically organised elections, to represent the workers in negotiations concerning collective agreements.

It protests against the decree issued on December 16th 1953 by the governor banning the entry into British Guiana and distribution of all publications of the World Federation of Trade Unions. This measure flatly contradicts the right of trade union organisations to maintain links with international organisations. Furthermore it is a flagrant violation of freedom of the press.

The W.F.T.U. demands the withdrawal of this measure and respect for the exercise of trade union rights in British Guiana.

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Under the Spreading Citrus Tree

MR. BUSTAMANTE! MR. GOMES!!
—was your journey really necessary?

By now these two West Indian comedians have returned from their junketing at our expense and with what have they returned?

What was all the rushing to and fro?

Superficially, this is what started it; a "NOTICE TO IMPORTERS, No. 648" issued by the British Board of Trade.

In short, this directive says that "arrangements have now been made under the provisions of Section 550 of the Mutual Security Act for the private import of a limited quantity of fresh oranges, fresh grapefruit and canned grapefruit from the U.S.A."

In other words the U.S. Government has given 'permission' to import from them. Thanks for the 'privilege'!

Thus the Churchill/Lyttelton Government have now been blackmailed by their Yankee usurers, for their debts, AND, we in the West Indies are to pay the price. Don't be amazed, it's all very simple!

Struggling from a permanent state of economic slump we have gone in for large scale citrus agriculture, especially Jamaica and British Honduras. We've even ventured into industrial canning. Naturally, as is the capitalist method, we depend on exports.

The U.S.A. is a possible market; what will the citrus farmers of California do? Right, they did it—customs tariffs went up and West Indian fruits were kept out of the U.S. market, by the artificially inflated high price. So they don't buy our fruit no more!

But remember, we have a "loving" Mother country that is always standing by to send battleships for our protection, even from our own elected members, as in Guiana—money is no object, they spend £12 per head per week for every soldier tramping our dusty streets.

Poor belly crawling Busta and Bertie came cringing in subservience, buy, buy for God's sake or the communists will get us!

No, my friends, the Yankees HAVE got us!

Do you know who sold us?

By BILLY STRACHAN
contributing this article in place of Billy's Column

Robeson Speaks Out

THE OTHER day Paul Robeson released for publication the following statement:

"Various newspaper columnists, radio commentators and magazines are now spreading the fantastic slander that Paul Robeson is 'changing his views'. Well, liars will continue to lie and this is a sad but a true fact that nowadays American manufacturers lead the world in the production and distribution of every variety of falsehood including, as we just have seen in Washington, 'doctored' photographs.

"But let me say for the record: the very essence of my life and work is loyalty to my convictions. I am, as I have been for many years, firmly and fully devoted to the struggle for peace and democracy throughout the world, for Negro liberation and colonial freedom, for friendship with the peoples of the Soviet Union, the new China and the People's Democracies of Europe. The interests of the working people of every land are my guiding principle and I know no force that can make me change.

"As for those who are telling the public that I have changed my mind, I might ask: how stupid can you get. Is the struggle for peace less meaningful today when Dulles threatens momentarily to throw a hydrogen bomb and bring retaliation in kind upon our own heads? Is it thinkable that Paul Robeson, the recipient of an International Stalin Peace Prize, would ever cease for a moment in his efforts in the sacred cause for peace?

"Am I, one of the three men awarded the title of 'Champion of African Freedom' in 1950, expected to ignore in 1954 the continuing massacre of my brothers in Kenya? And here in America is Jim Crow dead and buried? Has the Congress passed the anti-lynch law and F.E.P.C.? Have my people's demands for economic, political and social equality been granted? It not, why should Paul Robeson who has dedicated his life to the struggle for those goals, change his mind about them now.

"The fact is that every day brings new proof that the great cause of peace and liberation in which I am inseparably united with the vast majority of mankind, is invincible. The doom of imperialism has been sounded in all Asia and soon Africa and other colonial lands, now straining against their chains, will rise in mighty freedom.

"Change my mind? Gentlemen of the press, you had better change yours because what I believe in is happening."

Cornered

Well, I'll save you a lot of trouble; it's a lot too, for it took me several days and several phone-calls and visits to various libraries, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, but finally guess where—the UNITED STATES EMBASSY, Grosvenor Square, London, W.1.

On my 27th birthday, that was April 16th, 1948, Mr. Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary, signed a wretched agreement in Paris with the U.S. Government, officially known as the ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT. Article 2, paragraph 3, was the one that hit us, you and I colonials, the price for the debt to bolster up a collapsed capitalist economy in Britain:

"the government of the United Kingdom will take the measures which it deems appropriate . . . to LIMIT ACCESS to markets, or further monopolistic control."

all this was agreed, to "facilitate U.S. stockpiling."

From this to the Mutual Security Act 1951 in the U.S. Congress, ammended by 1953 at the 83rd Congress, and this is the essence of Section 550.

Up to $250,000,000 is to be squeezed from already dollar starved countries in the way of credits, for the sale of **"surplus agricultural commodities or products thereof; produced in the U.S.A."**

And what's this for; for the provision of future happiness of the U.S.A. or any other backward countries? —paragraph C, sub-para. (1) states that the proceeds of such sales are for "providing military assistance."

For Guatemala? or Guiana against the British troops? or for the Kikuyu?

No! you can see now just where West Indians have to strike. The pathetic wailing of spineless politicians in whom the people have lost all trust, is of no avail.

Colonials must fight

I have to mention here a voice of support that appeared in the "TIMES", 7/5/54, formerly of the "Trinidad Legislature", who exposed the occasion when James Griffiths, the Labour-Imperialist, refused Trinidad the opportunity to sell sugar at extremely favourable prices to Venezuela.

For me, it is abundantly clear, that what we now pay in unemployment and misery, is directly due to our subject status to Britain and in turn their weak-kneed indebtedness to the Wall Street pawnbrokers.

MARSHALL AID IN ALL ITS NAKEDNESS IS THE ROOT OF ALL THE EVIL.

When I spoke to the Board of Trade official, enquiring about the Mutual Security Act, laughingly he told me not to worry about the name, it was only Marshall Aid in the 'new look'.

Here's a better bet for comic Busta and his podgy colleague Gomes; why not appeal to those parties in Jamaica and Trinidad, which strive to break the chains that strangle the sprouting orange groves at home.

The path of JAGAN is a worthy one, but not as tempting as the slippery slopes to wretched Whitehall!

Premier Adams Exposed

BARBADOS; 4/5/54: TODAY in the House of Assembly three back-benchers of the Labour Party, bossed by Grantley Adams, let the cat out of the bag!

Defending his position, the Hon. Errol Barrow, formerly an Executive Committee member of the Caribbean Labour Congress, LONDON BRANCH, stated that the Premier, Mr. Adams had approached him in London and asked him to come back to Barbados.

No one yet knows if Barrow has yet discovered Adams' cunning! This invitation must have taken place after Mr. Barrow had been Chairman of the C.L.C. (LONDON) Committee which caustically criticised Adams' support for the Rance Commission on Federation.

Although the Assembly debate descended to mud-slinging, it did expose the shell-like structure of the so-called Barbados Labour Party.

Would you believe it? Barrow accused Adams of saying that Stalin was the greatest man who ever lived! But this was too much, the Premier, remembering his Churchillian C.M.G., hotly denied this, but added that he might go as far as saying that Lenin was the greatest statesman of his time.

This play acting is indicative of what the audience, the electorate demand. The best commentary and perhaps most telling, was Mr. Barrow's pregnant accusation:

"Next week, you will get up and say that you never said so."

Queen confers Birthday Honours

THIS ANCIENT practise took it's usual form and lists were announced on June 10th. The most ardent supporters of Her Imperial Majesty were duly recognised with Viscounts, Baronetcys, Knights Bachelor, Companionships of St. Michael and St. George and a host of lesser insignia.

Close on the heels of one of the West Indies' most illustrious Labour leaders, we have the following, noticeably from BARBADOS, all of whom have climbed to their present positions through the Barbados Workers' Union:

O.B.E.

H. W. Springer, Registrar of the University College of the West Indies.

F. L. Walcott, "for service to the Trade Union Movement in Barbados."

The Superintendent of Police in British Guiana, has also been bestowed with the M.B.E. (Member of the British Empire).

Slightly bewildering, is the **Colonial Police Medal** for Meritorious Service, awarded to Mr. R. K. Masson of the Fire Brigade at Belize in British Honduras?

Malayan, Jamaican, Kenyan, Trinidadian and Guianese police have been equally rewarded.

Her most loyal subjects have thus gained their just deserts!

Savage Laws

GOVERNOR SAVAGE has made an Order under the Emergency Orders empowering the Commissioner of Police to close down for twenty-four hours any printing press which publishes any matter:—

1. The advocacy or encouragement or approbation of disobedience to any authority lawfully constituted.
2. The advocacy or encouragement or approbation of disobedience or resistance to or disregard of any of the laws of the colony.
3. Any matter tending to promote feeling of hostility or ill-will towards members of Her Majesty's forces in the colony.

The police have power to close down the press for twenty-four hours and the Governor may order that the place remain closed for a further specified period. It is considered that this Control of Propaganda Order 1954, is aimed at the weekly publication "THUNDER", organ of the People's Progressive Party.

D. N. Pritt gets big welcome at C.L.C. General Meeting

A PACKED meeting hall of members and fraternal visitors listened to D. N. Pritt, Q.C. (the Great Defender) address the Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch) at 3, Robert Street, on Sunday, 27th June.

Mentioning that he upheld the interests of oppressed colonial peoples not merely as a kind-hearted individual, but as a socialist, Mr. Pritt advised the audience that they must never expect to get freedom on a platter from their oppressors.

The colonial people will have to struggle to win and hold their freedom.

With subtle humour directed at imperialism, Mr. Pritt received a big ovation at the end, and again when the chairman said that Mr. Pritt had spent one month in Guiana defending two P.P.P. members and had not asked or received a single cent for his services.

Among the fraternal delegates was a representative of the Executive Committee of the Electrical Trades Union, and he addressed the meeting.

Delegates came also from the Merseyside West Indian Society and from Birmingham.

GREETINGS

Messages of greeting were received from the P.P.P. of Guiana, West Indian Independence Party of Trinidad, Caribbean Labour Congress, Jamaica Women's Assembly, and also from the World Federation of Trade Unions and World Federation of Democratic Youth.

An emergency resolution on Guatemala was passed unanimously.

Following election of the Executive Committee, members saw a film show. One film expressed the African people's desire for a better life, with Paul Robeson singing. The other dealt with the miserable conditions of Negro and Puerto Rican migrant farm labourers in the United States.

May 25th. was National Day of protest on Kenya. Lobbying of M.P.s and demonstrations were organised.

Below, West Indians are seen taking part in a London demonstration.

YANKEES SUBDUE GUATEMALA

★ continued from page 1

sion of dictatorships. She was a feudal state in which 2% of the population owned 72% of the land. Sharecropping, forced labour on the roads for some three months of each year, wages of under 2/6d. a day with a cost of living as high as in Britain, this was the lot of the mass of the people, and hunger, disease and illiteracy as the inevitable outcome.

Free speech, a free press, free elections, trade unions, in short, all the elementary democratic rights were ignored. Any kind of opposition to the prevailing conditions was labelled bolshevism. It was bolshevism even to refer in publications to "workers". The more polite term "employee" had to be used. To protest meant at best imprisonment, at worst murder.

Democratic sweep

In 1944 a popular revolution took place in Guatemala. For the first time free elections were held. When the first President, Dr. Arevalo's term of office ended in 1950, President Arbenz was elected, receiving twice as many votes as his nine opponents combined.

In the past eleven years, Guatemalans have enjoyed basic democratic rights previously unknown to them. The deposed government's programme of ending feudalism by agrarian reform, stabilising the economy, raising the standard of living, providing social services and encouraging trade unions and collective bargaining received the overwhelming support of the people.

Quite fair

The measures were mild. For example, the Agrarian Reform law (1952) state that only **uncultivated** land over 223 acres was to be taken over. Compensation was to be paid, based on the registered value of the properties, and paid in bonds maturing in 25 years' time.

The amount of land to be distributed was only about a quarter of the total land. By February of this year 55,000 peasants had received land and already there had been evidence of a rising standard of living.

This alleged 'communist government' had only four Communist Congressmen out of 56.

What of the other charge, i.e., that Guatemala was a threat to her neighbours? Not even the U.S. State Department beset as it is by red-hallucinations could support such a charge. How could a country the size of Guatemala, as poor as Guatemala, bent on devoting her energies to raising the standard of life, be a threat to anyone? Can it be seriously maintained, that she was a threat to the Panama Canal, 700 miles away?

Profit grabbers

Guatemala was first threatened and abused, then attacked not because she was "communist" or potentially aggressive, but because her reform programme threatened the privileges of United States monopaly capitalism, and an improved life for her people might have served as an example to others in the hemisphere to cast off dictatorship and economic imperialism and tread the path of freedom to a civilised life.

The United Fruit Company of America owned the largest part of the best land in Guatemala, controlled the railways, ports, harbours and communications, and made enormous profits from the starvation wages.

No cheating

When the Government of Guatemala instituted its land reform it proposed to compensate the United Fruit Company at the value of its property as stated in its tax returns. The U.F. Co. demanded compensation at 14 times this amount, for land which it had received for nothing 50 years before.

The Arbenz Government did not expropriate the property of U.F. Co. and did not oppose foreign investment as such. It merely insisted that foreign investors must be subject to the laws as they applied to Guatemalans themselves.

Connections

American Big Business cares nothing for the laws of a democratic and sovereign government. The United Fruit Company was determined to fight Guatemala, and the tie-up between big business and government circles in the U.S.A. enabled it to do so successfully.

Mr. Dulles is a shareholder in the U.F. Co. and his brother is a member of the firm of Mellon and Co., which handles its legal affairs. Mr. J. M. Cabot, a cousin of Cabot Lodge, was until recently, the Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs and also belongs to the legal firm representing the U.F. Co.

Mr. S. Braden, another director of U.F. Co. was also, until recently an Assistant Secretary of State. The President of Honduras from which the attack was launched, is the local legal representative of the United Fruit Co.

Enough has been said to show that the subjugation of Guatemala was on behalf of super-profits. As Pablo Neruda, the Chilean poet, once said. "In Central America, bananas are defended, not liberties."

The Guatemalan people's struggle against this new dictatorship is the cause of all democrats. Above all, it is a cause which West Indians must support.

Take note

Guatemala gave her support ungrudgingly over the British Guiana issue. She was the first to raise the British Guiana question at U.N.O. to secure justice for Guiana.

Make no mistake about it. Guatemala's defeat is a victory for imperialism and a destruction of the hard won liberties of a downtrodden peasantry.

West Indians take note. This attack is an illustration of how the imperialists will stop at nothing to maintain their vile system. We must explain, protest and campaign on behalf of the Guatemalan people and expose aggressive American imperialism.

League of Coloured Peoples

THE LEAGUE of Coloured Peoples, Ltd., at its annual general meeting in May, adopted a report stressing the similarity of interests with the Caribbean Labour Congress (L.B.) and noting the absence of any conflict of aims between the two bodies.

A new Executive was elected, Mr. W. Compton, barrister, being the new President.

Recommendations made by a fact finding commission and adopted by the meeting would, it is hoped, result in improved functioning of the League to serve the interests of its members.

Peaceful Progress

THE EDITOR of the "Daily Argosy" (the Argosy Co., Ltd. holds the Government printing contract) has called for the deportation of Dr. and Mrs. Jagan and at least six other P.P.P. members. This is necessary he claimed in his June 6th editorial "if the country is ever to enjoy peaceful progress".

Make These Facilities Available

IT IS lamentable when one realises how handicapped West Indian athletes must be when they meet any opposition. Needless to mention the potentials of our athletic youths that are not fully utilized because of the lack of the necessary facilities such as proper cinder running tracks, gymnasia, and qualified coaches.

For example, to name a few, we have men like Wint, Bailey and Roden who have shown themselves as being among the best in the running field. Rodney, the weightlifter, who has competed in the last two Olympic Games, and Yolande Pompey, the light-heavyweight boxer from Trinidad.

But despite the lack of the necessary facilities we continue to produce an athlete of world stature from time to time, which shows the determination of young West Indians to take part in international sports.

ONLY THEN

We are fortunate that climatic conditions favour us somewhat. In England and Wales, with a population of 44 million, there are only 44 public cinder running tracks, quite in contrast to the whole of the West Indies where not a single cinder track exists. Finland with a population of four million has 700 public cinder running tracks, and the State of Minnesota in the United States alone has 800 of them.

Not until a People's Government is in power in the proposed federated state of the West Indies shall our youths be able to have the full benefits any young athletes could wish for like the young people of Poland, Hungary, Russia and China, to name a few of the People's Democracies where sport is accessible to everyone.

Elton Ollivierre's SPORTS COMMENTS

BRIEF SPORTS NEWS

Emil Zatopek, 31 year old Czech Olympic Champion, broke the world record for the 5,000 metres (3 miles 188 yards) with a time of 13 mins. 57.2 secs.

Iron man Zatopek holds nine world records, some finally recognised and a few yet to be ratified. They are for the 6, 10, and 15 miles; 5,000, 10,000, 20,000, 25,000 and the 30,000 metres.

J. LANDY, the Australian, breaks the world record for the mile in Finland, with time of 3 mins. 58 secs.

DIANE LEATHER, first woman to run a mile under five minutes, breaks women's 880 yards record.

EZZARD CHARLES fails to regain the world heavyweight title from Rocky Marciano.

Russia is sending an athletic team to Britain in October.

GUIANA NEWS

From Janet Jagan, Georgetown, Br. Guiana.

Eleven persons, including two former Ministers of the deposed P.P.P. Government and three members of the prorogued House of Assembly have received a total of twenty-four charges for having "undesirable publications" in their possession. These charges followed recent police raids. The eleven persons are charged under the Undesirable Publications Ordinance, 1953. Under the Ordinance, the Governor has banned twenty-two publications. The law provides for a penalty of 250 dollars or six months' imprisonment or both. Hearing was fixed for June 18th.

At Buxton Village, East Coast Demerara, the people have been boycotting and picketing the local cinema. This followed the cinema owner's refusal to allow the Guiana Industrial Workers' Union the use of the building for a meeting.

Seven persons were arrested at Vreed-en-hoop on Empire Day, being charged with unlawful procession. Demonstrators carried flags and placards reading "Down with the Empire", "End Colonial Rule", "End Emergency Laws", and "We Want Dr. Jagan". The hearing has been postponed to June 14th.

On the 27th June four persons were arrested at Soesdyke (a village adjacent to the former U.S.A. Air Base) for illegal assembly and dragged from a sports club. Later police brought charges against eleven others. The hearing has been postponed to June 23rd.

Arrests Continue

Following a May Day demonstration at Plantation Skeldon, a sugar estate near the border of Dutch Guiana, seventeen persons were arrested by police and charged with holding an illegal procession. Thirteen were unrepresented by Counsel. Charges against fifteen were dismissed by the Magistrate. Nasrudeen, 23 year old member of the General Council of the People's Progressive Party, who was found not guilty of a sedition charge several months ago when he was represented by D. N. Pritt, and 21 year old Aslam, factory worker, were convicted and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

News on the health of Dr. Jagan has been under considerable discussion, but no reports have been given by the prison authorities and on one is allowed to visit him. However, Mr. Luck, who was just released from prison has informed Dr. Jagan's family that his health has improved following an attack of 'flu. Dr. Jagan is now out of he prison infirmary.

The P.P.P., in its weekly newspaper "Thunder" which now has a circulation of 16,000 has called for an intensification of its boycotts and a reduction of the consumption of rum to reduce government revenue.

Published by C. LeMaitre, 22, Collingham Place, S.W.5.
X-Press Print, 397 Harrow Road, W.9.

TRINIDAD IN THE PAWN-SHOP

THE WHOLE island is now £4,245,000 deeper in debt after a Five-Minute deal that took place in London on Bad Lucky May 13th — that is, bad lucky for Trinidad.

Like Jamaica, just about a year ago, we are pawned by our foreign governors to their fellow countrymen financiers.

Through increased taxation, direct or indirect, we'll repay £4 interest, for the privilege of being in pawn for every £100 debt; then somewhere between 1973-76, we have to return the £100, when the original usurer or money-lender in Throgmorton Street, London, only gave £99 10s. 0d. in the first place.

Do you see, now, why John Bull hangs on to our dear islands, armed to the teeth?

Call to End Colour Bar

THE NATIONAL Council for Civil Liberties at its annual general meeting passed the following resolution on the colour bar and racial discrimination in Britain:

"This Annual General Meeting expresses its detestation at racial and colour bar practices still operated in this country;

Calls upon the Government to legislate to make racial and colour bar clauses in leases illegal;

Demands that the Government make a clear declaration that the taxpayer's money will not be used to entertain official guests at colour-bar hotels or hotels practising racial discrimination;

Urges the Government to call upon the publicly financed British Travel and Holiday Association to remove from their list of hotels all those which practise racial discrimination or colour bar, so that self-respecting members of the public will not inadvertently patronise such establishments;

Welcomes the action taken in Manchester and Paddington to bring before the Licensing Justices examples of colour bar in public houses, and calls upon the people throughout the country to put an end to all forms of colour and racial discrimination as uncivilised behaviour."

C. L. C. (L. B.)

3 Robert Street, N.W.1.

Democracy for Guiana and all West Indians

Join the Caribbean Labour Congress (London Branch) and make your voice effective in a way that Lyttelton will understand.

★ The C.L.C. stands for Independence for the West Indies and Federation.
★ It actively campaigns for these aims politically.
★ There are also activities to suit all interests — organised by the Social, Cultural, Youth, and Women's Committees.
★ Membership dues are 5/- per year payable either in one sum or in two instalments of 2/6d. each.

Register your indignation at Lyttelton's action against Guiana in a way that can help the campaign . . .

JOIN THE C.L.C. NOW AND STRENGTHEN THE FIGHT

Post to the Secretary, Caribbean Labour Congress (L.B.), 3 Robert Street, N.W.1.

I wish to become a member and enclose subscription of .....s. .....d. (5/- per year payable either in full or two sums of 2/6.)

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